

**Economy Borough Council
Meeting Minutes
8 Oct 2019**

MEETING was called to order at 7:02 pm by Council President Brian Westrom, also present were Mr Gary Bucuren, Mr Tom Fetkovich, Mr Frank Morrone and Mrs Audrey Mutschler. Others present included Mayor Jo Ann Borato, Borough Manager Randy Kunkle, and Solicitor Joseph Askar.

ABSENT: Vice President RJ Burns
Mrs Pat Skonieczny

MOMENT OF SILENCE.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Borato introduced the newest hire in the Police Department, Derek Amrhein. Council welcomed him onboard.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: Mr Westrom welcomed everyone to the meeting and requested the discussion(s) regarding borough business be kept to 3 – 5 minutes.

Ray McClellan, Shaffer Rd, asked if Ambridge Water Authority is extending a line up Shaffer road. Mr Kunkle responded there was a one-call to extend the line to Zhender road.

Minutes: September 24th, 2019. **Motion by Mrs Mutschler seconded by Mr Bucuren, to approve the minutes, all voted aye.**

Committee Reports:

Parks and Recreation: Nothing to report at his time.

Ordinance: Mrs Skonieczny is not present

Public Safety: Nothing to report at this time.

Buildings and Property: Nothing to report at this time.

Personnel: Mr Westrom requests an executive session regarding personnel in the Public Works department with a possible vote.

Finance: Mrs Mutschler noted the budget report, Treasurers report and balance sheets will be on file. The list of bills for October 8th totaling \$544,565.64 is prepared for Council approval. **Motion**

by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Fetkovich to approve the lists of bills that have been properly signed off on, all voted aye.

Mrs Mutschler reported the Finance Committee received the first draft of the budget; please refer questions to the Borough Manager.

Public Works: Mr Burns is not present.

Mayors Report: The Mayor's report is available for review in the Borough Office.

The License Plate Reader Cameras were installed on SR 65 and Economy Way. The DA will be over soon to teach the officers how to use the equipment.

The Eye Sniper software, to help train officers in real time incidents, has been ordered.

Baffles at the Ambridge Sportsmen's Club have been installed. Chief O'Brien and Zoning Officer Thomas and Shoup Engineering were instrumental in this effort, which resulted in decibel levels below the legal limits.

Solicitor's Report: The Walmart assessment appeal is still pending.

Mr Askar received a letter from the Baden Water Authority approving the installation of water to the single request on Phillips street. He will forward the letter to the borough.

Mr Askar reviewed the temporary easements on Cooney Hollow Road to repair the slide and feels they are ready for approval.

Engineer: Two of the four property owners on Cooney Hollow adjacent to the slide have signed the easements, which are recommended for approval. **Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Bucuren to accept the temporary easements on Cooney Hollow Road, all voted aye.**

Milling is done on the roads to be paved, which will be start tomorrow. It makes sense to include High Meadow road at a cost not to exceed \$33,000. Mr Brickner found other line items in his budget to pay for this. **Motion by Mr Bucuren, seconded by Mrs Mutschler, to approve change order # 1 to project # 9742 at an additional cost not to exceed \$33,000 all voted aye.**

Old Business:

NLSC: Council discussed the lack of progress at the center and the need to inspect for violations and cite them. They also want an update from the Zoning Officer on a per meeting basis. **Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Bucuren, to have the Code Enforcement Officer cite violations at the shopping center and provide an update for each Council meeting, all voted aye.**

Froman re-zoning request: This was delayed from the originally scheduled public hearing date at the request of the developer. Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Fetkovich, to advertise the Public Hearing for the Froman re-zoning request, all voted aye.

Mrs Mutschler mentioned a draft of the budget will be going out to the rest of Council soon.

New Business:

Council considered the Ambridge satellite office of the Veterans Service Center's request for a \$500 donation to support their efforts. Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Fetkovich, to provide a \$500 donation to the Veterans Service Center in Ambridge, all voted aye.

Mayor Borato thanked Representative Rob Matzie's office for keeping Council up to date on different grant programs the borough could be eligible for.

Mr Askar pointed out the recently completed audit for the tax collector for the first six months of the year should be approved to be consistent with the efforts to install the interim tax collector. Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Bucuren, all voted aye to approve the audit as prepared by Maher Duessel.

Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Bucuren, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter in the Public Works Department with a possible vote and to discuss the tax collector's commission all voted aye at 7:37.

Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Fetkovich, to return to regular session, all voted aye.

Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Fetkovich, to offer the Public Works Foreman position to Ted Brickner. All voted aye. Mr Kunkle will draft a letter for Mr Westrom to sign.

Motion by Mrs Mutschler, seconded by Mr Bucuren, to amend Resolution #240, section 11 by reducing the Property Tax and Per Capita Tax commissions to 1.5% effective January 1, 2022, all voted aye.

Motion by Mr Fetkovich, seconded by Mr Bucuren to adjourn, all voted aye at 8:14.

Submitted by



Randy S Kunkle
Borough Manager